Topics List for Bioethics

Cells

Use of stem cells

Use of patient cells for cell lines (who owns the cells and discoveries made with them?)

Characteristics of Life/Death

Termination of care for an encephalic infants

Definitions of death in relation to terminating life

Assisted suicide for the terminally ill

Artificially sustaining and prolonging life

Environmental Ethics

Fair allocation/use of resources

Intrinsic value of species

Genetics

Privacy of genetic information

Ownership of genetic information (patenting)

Genetic modification of bacteria, plants, animals, or humans

Genetic modification of food

Gene therapy

Genetic testing issues

Personal responsibility and genetic determinism (how much is your behavior due to your genes?)

Human Biology/Organ Systems

Use of growth hormone (therapy vs. enhancement)

Use of steroids

Xenotransplantation (transplantation of animal parts to humans)

Organ transplantation

Combining humans and computers (what makes us human?)

Microbiology

Compulsory vaccination

Quarantine for infectious individuals

Reproduction

Eugenics

Use of Pre-Implantation Genetic Diagnosis, either to select for or against certain traits

Reproductive cloning of humans

Cloning of animals and plants

Sex selection

Having one child to save another

Research Ethics

Use of humans for clinical trials (testing new treatments, devices, or drugs)

Human testing in vulnerable populations or in less developed countries

Use of animals in medical research, dissection, or in testing of personal care products

Appropriate use of genetic material sampled from indigenous populations

Other

Health care justice

Drugs, children, and behavior control

Race (definition, value, use of genetic difference in medical treatment)

Gender (definition, value)